(b) The fields are located in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Rajasthan and Gujarat.

(c) 117 bids have been received for these fields.

(d) and (e) No bids were submitted for the fields in Assam. As submission of bids by companies is a commercial decision, it is not possible to give any reasons for bids not being received for the oilfields in Assam.

Gas processing capacity in the Country

341. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission's gas processing complex at Hazira proposes to double its capacity;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the gas processing capacity in the country is inadequate to meet its demand; and

(d) if so, the steps Government propose to take to boost production of gas in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA) : (a) and (b) ONGC are implementing a project to enhance the processing capacity of the Hazira gas Terminal from 20 MMSCMD to 41 MMSCMD.

(c) While gas processing capacity in the country is by and large adequate to meet the present off-take, several projects are being implemented to raise this capacity to handle the higher availability of natural gas estimated in future in order to meet supplies to consumers to whom this gas has been committed.

(d) Government have approved a number of Oil & Gas field development and gas processing & transportation projects. Private sector participation in the sector is also being encouraged.

Setting up of LPG Bottling Plants near consuming Centres

342. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Oil Corporation has decided to set up a chain of medium range LPG bottling plants near consuming centres;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of places identified for setting up of each LPG bottling plant;

(d) whether adequate safety measures would be taken into account before setting up of each centres; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) to (e) LPG bottling plants with different capacities are set up on techno-economic considerations after obtaining necessary safety clearances from concerned statutory authorities. Bottling plants at following locations are either under construction or proposed to be set up by I.O.C. during the 8th plan period :

1. Delhi
2. Bikaner
3. Farukhabad
4. Patiala
5. Akola
6. Ahmedabad
7. Bhavnagar
8. Calcutta
9. Tripura
10. Manipur
11. Mizoram
12. Sikkim
13. Guwahati
14. Cuddapah
15. Trichy/Tanjore
16. Madras

17. Quilon
18. Manmad/Dhulia
19. Cochin
20. Pune
21. Belgaum
22. Pondicherry.

तेल और प्राकृतिक गैस को निकालना

343. **श्री राम नरेश यादव** : क्या पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने तेल और प्राकृतिक गैस को निकालने के लिए 45 ब्लाक, देशी और विदेशी गैर सरकारी कम्पनियों को सौंपने का निर्णय लिया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इन कम्पनियों का ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) भविष्य में इनसे कितना तेल और प्राकृतिक गैस मिलने की संभावना है ?

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (कैप्टन सतीश शर्मा) : (क) से (ग) तेल और गैस के अन्वेषण के लिए बोली के पांचवे दौर में 45 ब्लाकों को प्रस्तावित किया गया है । बोली प्राप्त करने की अंतिम तिथि 30 जून, 1993 है । अभी तक कोई बोलियां प्राप्त नहीं हुई हैं । इन ब्लाकों से प्राप्त होने वाले तेल और प्राकृतिक गैस की संभाव्य मात्रा इन ब्लाकों में अन्वेषण कार्य और उसके बाद प्राप्त स्थानों का विकास किए जाने पर ही जानी जाएगी ।

Import of Crude by IOC

344. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY :
DR. JINENDRA KUMAR JAIN :
SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ :
SHRI P. UPENDRA :
SHRI RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI :
SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state ;

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Oil Corporation propose to import large quantity of crude in the financial year 1993-94;

(b) what is the total cost of the same alongwith total amount of foreign exchange involved in this import;

(c) whether the production of petroleum products and petrol during the same period is likely to increase as compared to last year, if so, details thereof; and

(d) whether Government are taking steps to tap the crude availability in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA) : (a) and (b) The import of crude oil will be in accordance with the approved Oil Economy Budget for the year 1993-94. The value of the imports will depend on the total quantity and prevalent international market prices.

(c) The indigenous production of petroleum products including petrol during the year 1993-94 is estimated to be about 51323 TMT as against 52561 TMT during 1992-93.

(d) Yes, Sir.

Contract for Expension of HBJ Gas Pipline

345. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the technical/price bids for the Rs. 600 crore pipeline supply contract for the expansion of Hazira-Bijapur-Jagdishpur (HBJ) gas pipeline finalised, if so, the names of Indian/foreign multinationals to whom the contract is likely to be given/awarded finally;

(b) what are the main sites in Delhi, Haryana and U.P. etc. which will have the gas through the pipelines indicating the present capacity and after laying capacity of this loop line in million cubic metres per day;